

Placement – Speaking

Level A1

All levels of this test are based on the pictures on page 32

Category of competence	A1.1 = 1 point	A1.2 = 2 points	A1.3 = 3 points
Vocabulary	Seems to recognize what is being pointed at but does not produce the correct word/phrase.	Recognizes what is being pointed at and produces a word/phrase that is less than fully correct.	Recognizes what is being pointed at and produces the correct word/phrase.
Pronunciation	Pronunciation is very difficult to understand without reference to the picture prompt.	Pronunciation is recognizable without reference to the picture prompt, but less than fully correct.	Pronunciation is correct, though it may be strongly coloured by the pupil's first language.

Introduction

Look at these two pictures. (*Indicate pictures.*)

I will ask you some questions and you will answer.

Try to say as much as you can for each answer.

Are you ready? (*Check that student is ready to start.*)

1. Look at this picture. (*Point to picture 1 – “the classroom”.*)

What is this? (*Point to board on wall.*)

What is this? (*Point to desk.*)

What is this? (*Point to map on wall above teacher.*)

Put tick (✓) in relevant box when student responds.

	A1.1 1 point	A1.2 2 points	A1.3 3 points
Vocabulary			
Pronunciation			

2. Who is this? (*Point to teacher in picture 1.*)

What is he doing? (*Point to teacher again.*)

What are these students doing? (*Point to students in picture 1.*)

	A1.1 1 point	A1.2 2 points	A1.3 3 points
Vocabulary			
Pronunciation			

3. Now look at this picture. (Point to picture 2 – “the school grounds”.)

What is this? (Point to tree.)

What is this? (Point to bin.)

What are these? (Point to windows.)

	A1.1 1 point	A1.2 2 points	A1.3 3 points
Vocabulary			
Pronunciation			

4. Where are these students? (Point to students in picture 2.)

Why are they outside? (Point to students in picture 2.)

What is the weather like in this picture? (Indicate picture 2 again.)

	A1.1 1 point	A1.2 2 points	A1.3 3 points
Vocabulary			
Pronunciation			

5. Now think about our school.

What is the name of our school?

Tell me one thing about the room that you are in now.

Tell me one thing that you like to do at school.

	A1.1 1 point	A1.2 2 points	A1.3 3 points
Vocabulary			
Pronunciation			

Placement – Speaking

Level A2

Category of competence	A2.1 = 1 point	A2.2 = 2 points	A2.3 = 3 points
Vocabulary	Produces some of the required items of vocabulary, but with hesitation. May have difficulty remembering words.	Produces most of the required items of vocabulary, with only occasional hesitation. May make some errors.	Produces all the required items of vocabulary without hesitation or serious error.
Grammar	Can produce structured phrases and simple sentences, but hesitantly and with obvious errors.	Can produce structured phrases and simple sentences without hesitation but with some basic errors.	Can produce structured phrases and sentences without hesitation and can correct errors if they are pointed out.
Pronunciation	Pronunciation is only partly accurate and phrases/sentences are often difficult to understand.	Pronunciation is mostly accurate and phrases/sentences are only occasionally difficult to understand.	Pronunciation is accurate and phrases/sentences are easily understood, though the accent may still be markedly "foreign".

Introduction

Look at these two pictures. (*Indicate pictures.*)

I will ask you some questions and you will answer.

Try to use whole sentences and say as much as you can.

Are you ready? (*Check that student is ready to start.*)

1. Look at this picture. (*Point to picture 1 – “the classroom”.*)

What do you think these students are learning about? (*Point to students in picture 1.*)

Which school subject do you like best? Why do you like it?

Tell me about something that you learned in school.

	A2.1 1 point	A2.2 2 points	A2.3 3 points
Vocabulary			
Grammar			
Pronunciation			

2. Look at these students again. (Point to students in picture 1.)

What are they wearing?

Tell me about the clothes that you wear to school. What colour are they?

Do you think that school uniforms are a good idea? Why? / Why not?

	A2.1 1 point	A2.2 2 points	A2.3 3 points
Vocabulary			
Grammar			
Pronunciation			

3. Look at this picture. (Point to picture 2 – “the school grounds”.)

Do you think that this school building looks nice? (Point to building in picture 2.) Why? / Why not?

How does this building (Point to building in picture 2.) look different from our school?

Tell me about how you came to school this morning.

	A2.1 1 point	A2.2 2 points	A2.3 3 points
Vocabulary			
Grammar			
Pronunciation			

4. These boys are on their lunch break. (Point to students in picture 2.)

At what time do you have lunch in our school?

What do you usually have for lunch?

Tell me about a special food that comes from your country.

	A2.1 1 point	A2.2 2 points	A2.3 3 points
Vocabulary			
Grammar			
Pronunciation			

5. Tell me one thing you like and one thing you don't like about this picture. (Point to picture 1.)

Tell me one thing you like and one thing you don't like about this picture. (Point to picture 2.)

Which picture do you prefer? (Indicate picture 1 and picture 2 again.) Why?

	A2.1 1 point	A2.2 2 points	A2.3 3 points
Vocabulary			
Grammar			
Pronunciation			

Placement – Speaking

Level B1

Category of competence	B1.1 = 1 point	B1.2 = 2 points	B1.3 = 3 points
Vocabulary	Uses mostly familiar vocabulary learnt in class. Occasionally has difficulty remembering a word or phrase.	Can go beyond familiar vocabulary learnt in class. Rarely has difficulty remembering a word or phrase.	Uses relevant vocabulary with ease and confidence.
Grammar	Uses simple structures without serious hesitation but still makes errors. Can correct some errors when they are pointed out.	Uses simple structures fluently. Makes errors but can mostly correct them when they are pointed out.	Uses simple structures fluently, with confidence, and mostly with accuracy. Can correct errors immediately when they are pointed out.
Pronunciation	Pronunciation of individual words sometimes inaccurate and intonation sometimes hesitant. May not be able to correct errors in the pronunciation of individual words when they are pointed out.	Pronunciation of individual words generally accurate, but intonation may be difficult to understand. Can correct errors in the pronunciation of individual words when they are pointed out.	Pronunciation of individual words generally accurate and intonation easy to understand, though there may still be strong traces of a “foreign” accent. Can correct errors of pronunciation and intonation when they are pointed out.

Introduction

Look at these two pictures. (*Indicate pictures.*)

I will ask you some questions and you will answer.

Use whole sentences and say as much as you can.

Are you ready? (*Check that student is ready to start*)

1. Look at this picture. (*Point to picture 1 – “the classroom”.*)

What do you think the teacher is saying? (*Point to teacher in picture 1.*)

What do these students have to do in class? (*Point to students in picture 1.*)

Tell me about some of the rules in our school.

	B1.1 1 point	B1.2 2 points	B1.3 3 points
Vocabulary			
Grammar			
Pronunciation			

2. Look at these flags from different countries. (Point to flags in picture 1.)

Tell me about another country that you have lived in.

Tell me some differences between your school in that country and your school in Ireland.

If you could visit any other country in the world, where would you go? Why?

	B1.1 1 point	B1.2 2 points	B1.3 3 points
Vocabulary			
Grammar			
Pronunciation			

3. Look at this picture. (Point to picture 2 – “the school grounds”.)

What might these boys be talking about? (Point to group of boys on grass beside bin.)

Tell me about something you like to do in your free time. Why do you find this interesting?

What will you do after school today?

	B1.1 1 point	B1.2 2 points	B1.3 3 points
Vocabulary			
Grammar			
Pronunciation			

4. Look at this picture again. (Point to picture 2.)

Why is this thing important? (Point to bin.)

What can you do to make our school a cleaner place?

Why should we take more care of the world we live in?

	B1.1 1 point	B1.2 2 points	B1.3 3 points
Vocabulary			
Grammar			
Pronunciation			

5. Now tell me about your first day at school in Ireland. What happened and how did you feel?

If a new student came to our school, how could you help him or her?

If you could change one thing about our school, what would you change? Why?

	B1.1 1 point	B1.2 2 points	B1.3 3 points
Vocabulary			
Grammar			
Pronunciation			